Mr. P. Sankunni Menon (*Elamkunnapuzha*).—Here also enquiries have been made?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*).—Here also enquiries were made.

Article in Malabar Mail regarding ill-treatment of a student of the St. Albert's High School by the ferry contractor.

330. **Mr. P. Sankunni Menon** (*Elamkunnapuzha*).—(a) Is the attention of the Government drawn to an article in 'Malabar Mail' dated 9th February 1937 depicting the way in which the ferry contractor treated a student studying in St. Albert's High School, Ernakulam;

(b) what action have the Government taken in the matter?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*).—(a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under enquiry.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*).—Who makes the enquiries?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*).—The Tahsildar has concluded his enquiry and I am making a personal enquiry.

331. **Mr. P. Sankunni Menon** (*Elamkunnapuzha*).—(a) Is the attention of the Government drawn to another article in 'Malabar Mail' dated 16th February 1937 under the heading 'കടത്തുകാർ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളെ പ്രഹരിക്കുന്നു';

(b) what action bave the Government taken in the matter?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*).—(a) Yes.

(b) Enquiries are being made.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*).—Here also the enquiry is made by the Diwan Peishkar?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*).—I am also making personal enquiries.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*).—They beat the students. That is the complaint here. May I know why the Police were not asked to enquire into the matter?

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Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar).* --My enquiry is not yet completed. But the report of the Tahsildar shows that the story of beating is not exact. I think the complaint ought to have been made by the Contractor who is a Muhammadan and who has been called by a name which ought not to have been called. It is the two letters that offended him.

332. Mr. P. Sankunni Menon *(Elamkunnapuzha).*—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received a petition dated 4th February 1937, to the Diwan and another petition dated 21st January 1937 to the Tahsildar, Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk, from the public of Bolghatty pointing out the grievances they suffer from the unjust and unfair treatment meted out to them by the Ernakulam-Bolghatty ferry contractor; and if so, what all steps have the Government taken to redress their grievances?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar).*—Yes. Enquiries are being made.

Regarding fall in the number of sheep and goats.

333. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi).*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) is it not a fact that according to the Administration Report of the Land Revenue Department, the total number of sheep and goats in our State in the year 1110 was 1,33,866;

(b) was not the number for the year 1111, 65,164;

(c) what is the reason for this calamitous fall in the number of sheep and goats in our State last year;

(d) as a result of this, has the price of mutton considerably increased, this year?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar).*—(a) The total of 1,33,866 has been wrongly struck for 61,866.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) Does not arise in view of answer to (a).

Rates at which electricity is purchased by Mattancheri and Ernakulam—particulars regarding.

334. Mr. A. Narayana Menon *(Vyttila).*—Will the Government be pleased to state rates at which electricity is

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